# Project 184 Weekly Update Website: www.project184.org

Summary of Environmental Planning and Compliance Activities For Project 184 Week Ending January 2, 2004

# Mill to Bull Tunnel

Camp 5 and EN2 Resources staff planned and ordered supplemental erosion and sediment control materials for the SPI Plum Creek spoils stockpile site. As reported last week, existing BMPs are not adequately controlling sediment originating from the staging area. The new supplies are primarily the larger (12- and 20-inch) straw wattles that will be installed during the next snow-free period.

The November 2003 monthly report under WDRs 5-00-215 was submitted to the RWQCB this week. Effective January 1, 2004, the District is transitioning to the annual monitoring requirements of the applicable M&RP given that all work was completed for the Alder spoils handling area on November 25, 2003.

EN2 Resources finalized the Initial Study and Proposed Negative Declaration for the Mill Creek Diversion Modification (aka bore hole) Project this week based on District staff comments. The document and associated notices for starting the 30-day public review are scheduled for release by January 8, 2004.

# **Ecological Resources Committee January 8, 2004 Meeting (CANCELLED)**

ERC meeting scheduled for January 8<sup>th</sup> at 0900 has been cancelled. EID has tentatively scheduled February 12<sup>th</sup>, for our next meeting, pending confirmation by ERC members. The proposed agenda was prepared and distributed to ERC members for comment on January 1, 2004.

#### Akin Powerhouse Water Quality Monitoring

The final water quality monitoring events were performed on December 17 and 19 upstream and downstream of the Akin Powerhouse. The monitoring began in mid-October and was performed an average of once per week to assess potential changes in water quality during a wide range of start-up and testing procedures for the powerhouse. Results indicate that Akin Powerhouse operations had negligible effects on South Fork American River water quality conditions during the monitoring periods.

#### Mill Creek Diversion Modification Project

On December 17, EN2 Resources provided the District the Administrative Final Initial Study and Proposed Negative Declaration for the borehole project on Mill Creek. The District will finalize and distribute the documents and associated notices in January for

public and agency review in accordance with the District's California Environmental Quality Act requirements and ongoing coordination activities with Mill to Bull Tunnel permitting and resource agencies. The documents were postponed for release until the first part of 2004 due to agency concerns with conflicts over the holiday season..

SWPPP measures are in place and inspections are being performed as required.

# **Powerhouse Update:**

EID is operating the powerhouse units 1 and or 2 depending on water supply. Currently we are operating at least one unit 24 hours a day, while we perform further testing. Between January 5<sup>th</sup> and January 16<sup>th</sup> we have a scheduled outage. Erosion control measures have been completed along the powerhouse access road. An emergency Knox box has been installed on the powerhouse gate to allow emergency vehicles access to the powerhouse.

#### Canal

The flows in the canal are being regulated by A-12 requirements for minimum fish flows. Current flows in canal are ranging between 65-75cfs. The canal is being patrolled on a daily basis and there have been no major problems found which would prevent the canal to be filled to its capacity. SCADA was being manned 24 hours a day to insure the reliable and safe operation of the canal.

On January 5th through January 13<sup>th</sup>, the canal will be shut off for the dewatering and inspection of the El Dorado and Mill-Bull Tunnel. At that time minor repairs will be made in several areas of the canal. EID crews will be inspecting the Alder and Plum creek siphons at this time.

EID is continually working on its automation to control the diversion structure at the intake to regulate the float controller to allow EID to satisfy the A-12 minimum flow requirements, and place balance of water in canal at A-11. This will allow EID to operate with much tighter flows, maximizing generation production. Mead & Hunt continues to provide engineering support on the remaining tasks to be completed at intake.

The residence houses located on the canal have been filled by Camp #5 Hydro employees which will insure the reliable and safe operation of the canal.

The Bull Portal dewatering pump rewiring is completed and will be tested during the scheduled canal outage between January 5<sup>th</sup> and January 13<sup>th</sup>.

The Drill rig has completed all work on Slide located between Flumes 6&7. Horizontal drains have been installed to relieve the water pressure against the canal section. EID has also installed a well point to allow monitoring of the water table in this area. Drains have been installed to transport the drain water from the slide area down the hill 260ft. EID is scheduled to have this area matted and SWPPP measures installed for winter by January 15, 2004.

# **Tributary flows:**

Esmeralda and Ogilby are not being utilized in canal, as of this report, however when bypass flows above minimums EID will utilize the water as needed.

# Echo Lake

The flashboards have been removed from the spillway and the facilities have been winterized.

# **Caples Lake**

The flashboards have been removed from the spillway and the facilities have been winterized.

#### Silver Lake

The radial gates are in the full open position and will remain this way From November 1 to April 1 inclusive. On December 31, 2003 EID ceased drafting operations at Silver Lake and will maintain minimum flows. Facilities have been winterized.

# Lake Aloha

Lake Aloha is shut down for the winter, which is the normal operating pattern. A visit was made October 29, 2003 to Lake Aloha. Staff 5.64 = 29.5 AF

# Listed below are the Projects readings for January 8, 2003, Taken from SCADA:

	Staff	Ac. Ft.	Draft
Echo Lake	.61	192	0
Echo Conduit	0		0
Echo Creek	1.63		8.1 cfs
Caples Lake	41.78	11,183	5 cfs
Silver Lake	3.90	1036	3.9 cfs
Pyramid Creek	0	0	

There is 0 cfs @ A-11cfs being released into the canal at Intake and 87.6 cfs flowing in the South Fork of the American River at Intake.

A-17 Forebay Storage 3796.0 = 284 AFA-18 EID Irrigation Usage is .51 = 6.9 cfs.

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